# CARPA Air Emergency Response Toxic Gas Analyzer Workshop

#### Featuring On-Site GC/MS Analysis

South Coast Air Quality Management District

Daniel Iha June 29, 2011



# South Coast Air Quality Management District





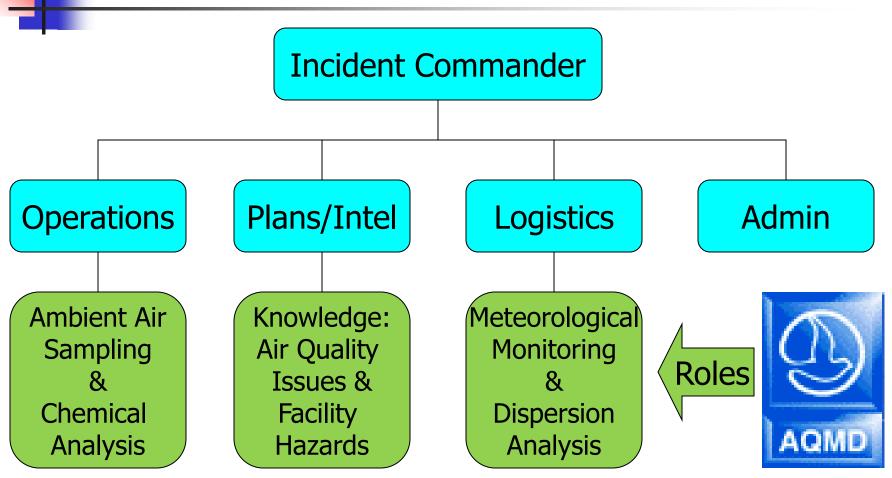
#### Role of SCAQMD in ER

- SCAQMD is an Emergency Response Agency
- Provides Specialized Support within the Incident Command System (ICS)





#### **Incident Command System**





## AQMD ER ON-SCENE STAFF

On-Scene Coordinator

Inspector

Chemists

Instrument Technicians

## Compliance Supervisor

- On-Scene Coordinator
  - Point of Contact for other Agencies
  - Provides Communication with Incident Commander (IC), including SCAQMD Measurement Results
  - Incident Commander for SCAQMD Staff
  - Able to Take Preliminary Samples (Canister and Tedlar<sub>®</sub> Bag)

# Air Quality Inspector

Supports the On-Scene Coordinator

Follows up after the Incident



#### Air Quality Chemist

#### Laboratory

- Performs Analyses of Samples Delivered to the Laboratory
- Generates Data and Reports for Review by the Laboratory Manager

#### Field

 Provides Expertise on Sampling and Analyses using Portable Instrumentation and Equipment



#### Incident Response Time

- Initial Phone Contact with Compliance Supervisor. 1-800-CUT-SMOG
- Call back within 5 Minutes

 Equipment and Personnel -Level/Type/Location of Response



#### Sampling Overview

- #1 Rule: Safety
- Sampling Protocol
  - Level 1 Training Our activities are limited by our training
  - Seek help from, and provide guidance to, Haz Mat experts





#### Sampling Overview

- Sampling Equipment Available
  - Containers for Non Gaseous Samples
  - Tedlar<sub>®</sub> Bags/ Lung Sampler
  - Canisters
  - Portable GC/MS
  - Jerome®
  - Dräger<sub>®</sub> CMS







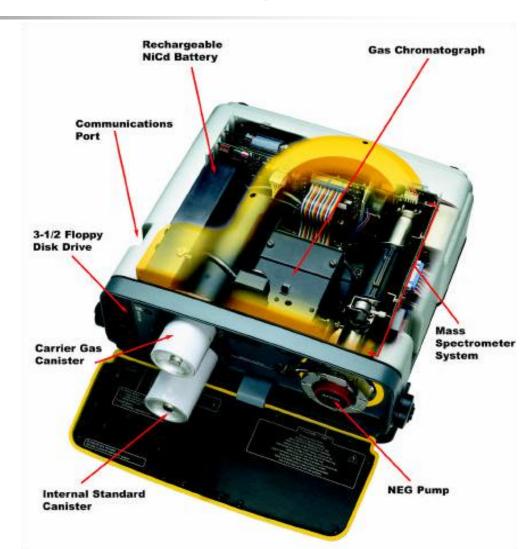
## Portable GC/MS





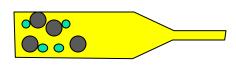
### HAPSITE® GC/MS Components

- Sample Probe and Pump
- Gas Chromatograph
- Mass Spectrometer
- Computer and Software

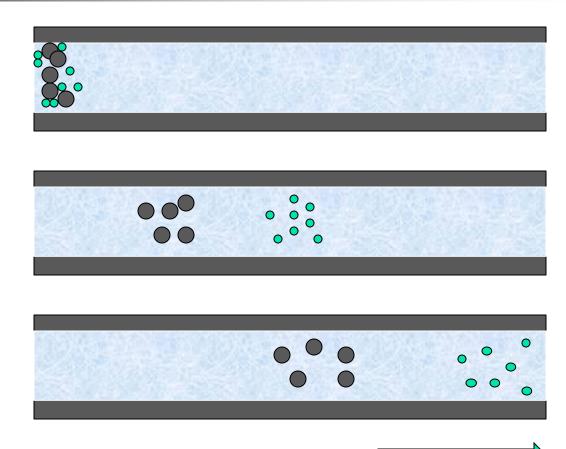




#### Gas Chromatography (GC)



Time 15 Minutes



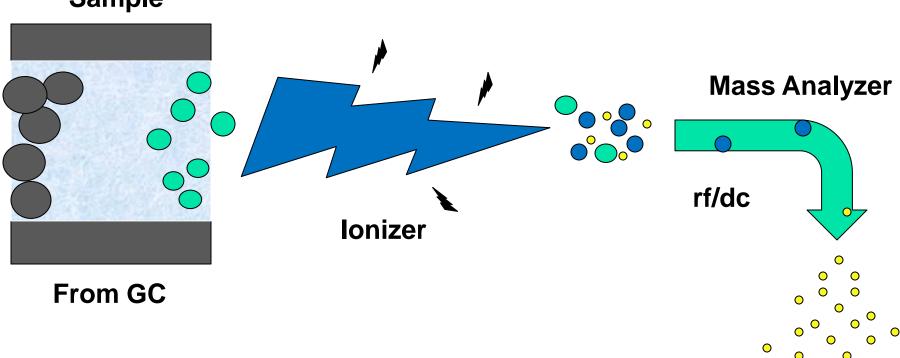




#### Mass Spectrophotometer (MS)

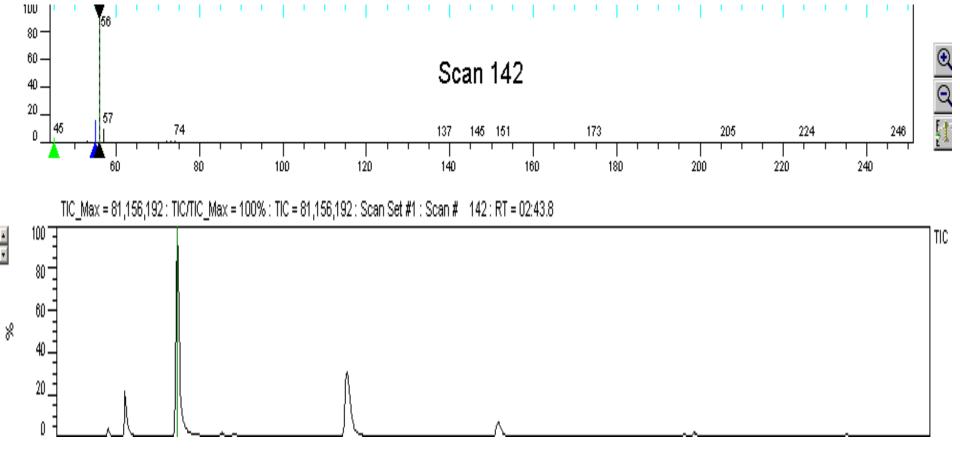
**Detector** 





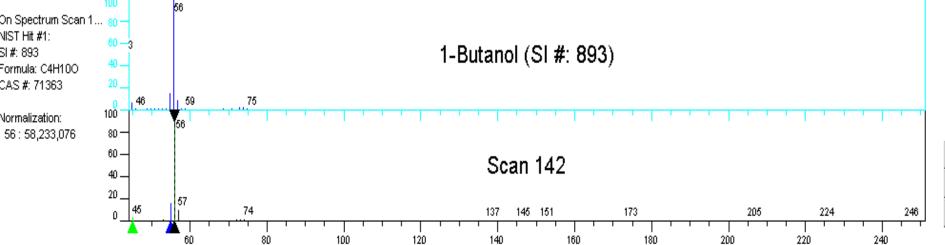


#### Ion Chromatogram





#### Scan-Library Search







#### Portability Features

- Completely Self-Contained Gas Chromatograph/ Mass Spectrometer (GCMS)
- Rugged for Field Deployment
- Built for Easy Decontamination and Cleaning





#### Field Friendly Features

- Completely Self-Contained Gas Chromatograph/ Mass Spectrometer (GCMS) Instrument Has On-Board Battery, Carrier Gas and Internal Standard
- About 40 Pounds
- Instrument can go on a Backpack for Remote Use





#### Advantages – On Site Analysis

- Reduce Time Frame for Reportable Results
- Ability to Take Many Measurements
- Modify Sampling Strategy



#### Advantages – Ease of Use

- One Touch Sampling
- Multiple Options for Operation
  - Probe
  - Front Panel
  - Laptop-wireless
- On Board Display
- Automatic GPS and Time Stamp



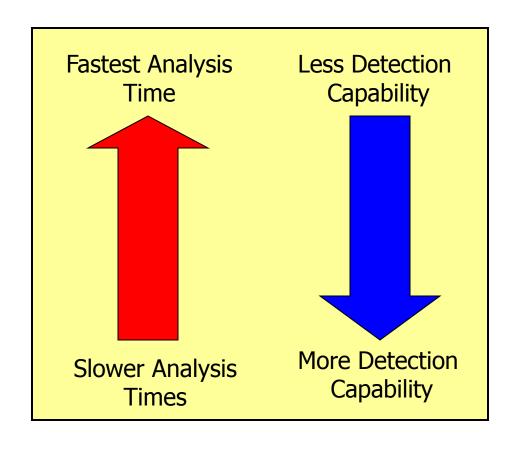


#### Advantages - Versatility

Survey Mode

Loop Injector Mode

Trap Mode





#### Survey Mode

- Useful Feature By-passes the GC
- Real-Time Indicator of the Air Quality
- Quick Information for Further Measurements Decisions



#### Loop Injector Mode

- Analyzes for Higher Level of Gaseous Compounds – ppm levels
- 1 Minute Sampling Time
- 15 Minute Run Time
- ~ 20 Minute Cycle Time





#### Trap Mode

- Analyze for Lower Level Concentrations - ppb
- 2 Minute Sampling Time
- 15 Minute Run Time
- ~20 Minute Run Time



### Field Operations

- Strap, Backpack, Cart or ???
- Survey Mode Scan the Area
- Loop Mode Contained
   Sample or Strong Odor
- Trap Mode Low to No Odor







# Operational Upkeep Considerations

- ½ Full Time Chemist per Year to Maintain
- Consumables
  - Batteries
  - Portable Gas Canisters
  - Carbon Traps and Loops
- Other Needs
  - Custom Calibration Gas Standards
    - Each compound/peak needs it's own set of standards
  - Maintenance

# Limitations

- Less Detection Capability than Laboratory Analysis
- More Volatile Species are not able to detectable (e.g. Light Hydrocarbons, HCN, HCl, HF, NH<sub>3</sub>, CO)
- Cannot be operated in an environment where there are potentials for flammability or explosions
- Battery Life
- Needs Proper Routine Maintenance



#### Field vs Laboratory Instrument

#### Portable Unit

- 20 minute run time
- Limited Compound Separation
- Allows for near real-time sampling decisions
- >5 ppb Level
- Limited Compound Library

#### Laboratory Unit

- Up to >1 hour run time
- Vastly enhanced Compound Separation
- Limited to samples previously taken on site
- Down to 1 ppt
- Extensive Compound Library



#### **Examples of Sampling Sites**

Mecca Odor Complaints

Long Beach Odorous Gas Release

Chevron Refinery

LAX Fuel Spill

**Torres Martinez Landfill Fire** 

Café Aroma Odor Complaint

Quemetco Refinery Fire

Tesoro Refinery Fire

LA/Hollywood Area Methane Fire

**Ontario Plastics Fire** 

La Mirada Rail Car Derailment

Lundy-Thaggard Odor Complaint

**United Alloy Factory Fires** 

**Universal Studios Fire** 

#### Example Incident: Café Aroma



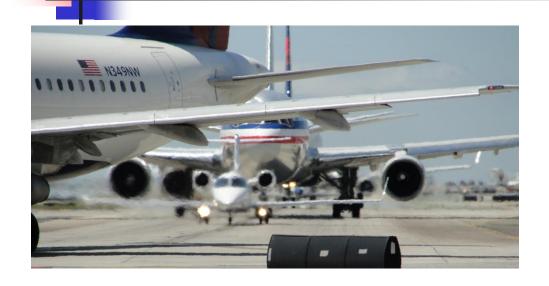


### Example Incident: Mecca





### LAX Flight Line Study





### LAX Flight Line Study



### Example Incident: Long Beach





## Thank You

**Daniel Iha** 

diha@aqmd.gov